



# The Connecticut EMS Advisory Board

John Quinlavin, Chairman

## Minutes of the Paramedic Committee

Wednesday, February 26, 2014

9:30 a.m.

Middlesex Memorial Hospital  
Middletown, CT

Attendance: Jim Santacroce, Scott Worcester, Doug Dole

1. Minutes from January 29, 2014 were approved.

### 2 Chair's report

- a) We discussed the CEMSAB review of the PSA Task Force report and CEMSAB's concern with recommendation number 5.
- b) CEMSAB meeting date will likely be changing to the last or fourth Wednesday of the month. We will need to change our meeting date when that happens.
- c) CORC is offering us the opportunity to have a page on their web site.

### 3. Committee Reports

- a) Doug met with the Legislative committee to discuss our questions about background checks. The following is quoted directly from their minutes and accurately describes our conversation:

- 1) What would be the threshold for withholding certification or licensure?  
Language exists for other healthcare professions. The language for EMS personnel would be borrowed from that existing language. Each case is unique and would be individually evaluated. Some thought was expressed about firearm exclusion language also being helpful.
- 2) Would background checks be repeated? How often?  
The proposal is for initial certification/licensure only. We may look at expanding it at some point in the future, but getting initial checks is the priority.
- 3) Would the results be shared with other EMS agencies?  
No. A certification or license would not be issued based on acceptable history. It probably would not be legally possible to share info. DPH will take action against the certification or license which would ultimately be posted online through e-license.
- 4) Why isn't DPH or OEMS taking the lead on this?  
As we understand it, DPH will back the initiative. Further information about DPH initiatives must be directed to the management at DPH.

5) Why EMS providers and not other healthcare providers? Have there been issues that would have been identified by these checks? Do other states do this? There are other healthcare providers that have checks and restrictions. CMS has some exclusionary criteria (through attestation of the service). Daycare providers have mandatory checks. The intent is to keep inappropriate people from being certified/licensed. There have been multiple high-profile cases in the media that would have been averted by checks. We don't have data on what other states are doing.

6) Who should pay for background checks- individual providers or EMS agencies? Ultimately the student/candidate will be responsible for the expense. EMS organizations may cover the cost for their members. It is possible to request the legislature to include funding to cover the expense.

7) Position: The Paramedic Committee is not in favor of providers paying.

b) Jim discussed the last Trauma Committee Meeting. The topic was Active Shooter and the work the committee is doing on that.

- stressing WHEN, not IF a big event happens
- soft targets- malls, hospitals
- call to action- to increase survival from events
- training would include tourniquets and hemostatic agents

c) Others: CEMSMAC is working the following:

- Cardio Cerebral Resuscitation (CCR)
- Dopamine vs Levophed
- Epinephrine discussions

#### 4) Old Business

- a) Facebook- Scott W is working on it. Will contact Bill Gerrish at DPH.
- b) CT EMS Expo- They have many of their speakers lined up. We don't know if they will have space for various state committees to present info.
- c) MOLST- plan a meeting or conference call with Dr Van Gelder.

#### 5) New Business

- a) Doug will contact Dave Bailey or Ray Barishansky about getting paramedic committee involved in the Community Paramedicine (MIH) discussions.

Adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

#### Our Mission

The CT EMS Advisory Board's Paramedic Committee represents Paramedics across the state. The mission we have accepted is to review and share best practices within the profession as it pertains to patient care, EMS Education, communication, and professional standards